



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/805,753	03/22/2004	Ken S. Kump	GE.0004	1918
41963	7590	01/08/2008	EXAMINER	
RAMIREZ & SMITH			SURYAWANSHI, SURESH	
PO BOX 341179				
AUSTIN, TX 78734			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2115	
			NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			01/08/2008	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

pto@isrlaw.com
pto@patent-counselors.com

MN

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/805,753	KUMP ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Suresh K. Suryawanshi	2115	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 March 2004.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-44 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-44 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 22 March 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ .	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-44 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

2. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 27-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

3. Claims 27-28 are directed to carrier wave, which does not fall within any of the four statutory categories of invention. It has been upheld that a carrier wave does not fall with a statutory category of invention (see MPEP 2106 and Interim Guidelines for Subject Matter Eligibility, Annex IV). Therefore, claims 27-28 are drawn to non-statutory subject matter.

4. Claim 29 is directed to digital data stream, which do not fall within any of the four statutory categories of invention. It has been upheld that a digital data stream does not fall with a statutory category of invention (see MPEP 2106 and Interim Guidelines for Subject Matter Eligibility, Annex IV). Therefore, claims 27-28 are drawn to non-statutory subject matter.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. Claims 1-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Tsujii et al (US Patent 7,079,189; hereinafter Tsujii).

7. As per claim 1, Tsujii discloses a method to manage power consumption of a medical imaging detector comprising:

receiving a first triggering signal [col. 2, lines 12-26; col. 10, lines 13-37; col. 11, lines 3-15; Fig. 4 and 7; a first triggering signal 601];

changing the medical imaging detector to a first power consumption state based on the first triggering signal [col. 2, lines 12-26; col. 10, lines 13-37; col. 11, lines 3-15; Fig. 4 and 7; phase 1 to phase 2];

receiving a second triggering signal [col. 2, lines 12-26; col. 10, lines 13-37; col. 11, lines 3-15; Fig. 4 and 7; a second triggering signal 602]; and

changing the medical imaging detector to a second power consumption state based on the received second triggering signal [col. 2, lines 12-26; col. 10, lines 13-37; col. 11, lines 3-15; Fig. 4 and 7; phase 2 to phase 3].

8. As per claim 14, Tsujii discloses a computer-accessible medium having executable instructions to manage power consumption of a medical imaging detector, the executable instructions capable of directing a processor to perform:

processing a received first triggering signal [col. 2, lines 12-26; col. 10, lines 13-37; col. 11, lines 3-15; Fig. 4 and 7; a first triggering signal 601];

changing the medical imaging detector to a first detector power consumption state based on the processed first triggering signal [col. 2, lines 12-26; col. 10, lines 13-37; col. 11, lines 3-15; Fig. 4 and 7; phase 1 to phase 2];

processing a received second triggering signal [col. 2, lines 12-26; col. 10, lines 13-37; col. 11, lines 3-15; Fig. 4 and 7; a second triggering signal 602]; and

changing the medical imaging detector to a second power consumption state based on the processed second triggering signal [col. 2, lines 12-26; col. 10, lines 13-37; col. 11, lines 3-15; Fig. 4 and 7; phase 2 to phase 3].

9. As per claim 27, Tsujii discloses

processing a received first triggering signal [col. 2, lines 12-26; col. 10, lines 13-37; col. 11, lines 3-15; Fig. 4 and 7; a first triggering signal 601];

changing the medical imaging detector to a first detector power consumption state based on the processed received first triggering signal [col. 2, lines 12-26; col. 10, lines 13-37; col. 11, lines 3-15; Fig. 4 and 7; phase 1 to phase 2];

processing a received second triggering signal [col. 2, lines 12-26; col. 10, lines 13-37; col. 11, lines 3-15; Fig. 4 and 7; a second triggering signal 602]; and

changing the medical imaging detector to a second power consumption state based on the processed received second triggering signal [col. 2, lines 12-26; col. 10, lines 13-37; col. 11, lines 3-15; Fig. 4 and 7; phase 2 to phase 3].

10. As per claim 29, Tsujii discloses

processing a received first triggering signal [col. 2, lines 12-26; col. 10, lines 13-37; col. 11, lines 3-15; Fig. 4 and 7; a first triggering signal 601];

changing the medical imaging detector to a first detector power consumption state based on the processed received first triggering signal [col. 2, lines 12-26; col. 10, lines 13-37; col. 11, lines 3-15; Fig. 4 and 7; phase 1 to phase 2];

processing a received second triggering signal [col. 2, lines 12-26; col. 10, lines 13-37; col. 11, lines 3-15; Fig. 4 and 7; a second triggering signal 602]; and

changing the medical imaging detector to a second power consumption state based on the processed received second triggering signal [col. 2, lines 12-26; col. 10, lines 13-37; col. 11, lines 3-15; Fig. 4 and 7; phase 2 to phase 3].

11. As per claim 30, Tsujii discloses a medical imaging system comprising:

a digital radiographic system having a medical imaging detector [col. 1, lines 20-33; radiographic information recording/reproducing system];

a first device for generating a first triggering signal [col. 2, lines 12-26; col. 10, lines 13-37; col. 11, lines 3-15; Fig. 4 and 7; a first triggering signal 601];

device for automatically changing the medical imaging detector to a first detector power consumption state based on the first triggering signal [col. 2, lines 12-26; col. 10, lines 13-37; col. 11, lines 3-15; Fig. 4 and 7; phase 1 to phase 2];

a second device for generating a second triggering signal [col. 2, lines 12-26; col. 10, lines 13-37; col. 11, lines 3-15; Fig. 4 and 7; a second triggering signal 602]; and

device for changing the medical imaging detector to a second power consumption state based on the second triggering signal [col. 2, lines 12-26; col. 10, lines 13-37; col. 11, lines 3-15; Fig. 4 and 7; phase 2 to phase 3].

12. As per claims 2, 15 and 31, Tsujii discloses that the received first triggering signal is an activation signal [col. 2, lines 12-26; col. 10, lines 13-37; col. 11, lines 3-15; Fig. 4 and 7; a first triggering signal 601 is a ready signal].

13. As per claims 3, 16 and 34, Tsujii discloses that the first power consumption state is either an off state, an idle state, an on state, the second power consumption state is either an off

state, an idle state, an on state [col. 2, lines 12-26; col. 10, lines 13-37; col. 11, lines 3-15; Fig. 4 and 7; see table 1].

14. As per claims 4, 17 and 35, Tsujii discloses that the first triggering signal is an activation signal; the first power consumption state is an idle state; the second power consumption state is either an off state, an on state [col. 2, lines 12-26; col. 10, lines 13-37; col. 11, lines 3-15; Fig. 4 and 7; see table 1].

15. As per claims 5, 18 and 36, Tsujii discloses that the received second triggering signal is a system timeout signal [col. 10, lines 13-37; state of phase 2 when a time-out of the integration control circuit occurs].

16. As per claims 6, 19 and 37, Tsujii discloses that the received second triggering signal is a deactivation signal and predictor signal [col. 2, lines 12-26; col. 10, lines 13-37; col. 11, lines 3-15; Fig. 4 and 7; see table 1].

17. As per claims 7, 20 and 38, Tsujii discloses that the predictor signal is derived from a prediction model [col. 2, lines 12-26; col. 10, lines 13-37; col. 11, lines 3-15; Fig. 4 and 7; see table 1].

18. As per claims 8, 21 and 39, Tsujii discloses that the prediction model is based on one or more correlation of pressure data, correlation of force data, probability prediction based time and

force of activation, statistic based on prior use, patient identifier indicia reader [col. 2, lines 12-26; col. 10, lines 13-37; col. 11, lines 3-15; Fig. 4 and 7; see table 1].

19. As per claims 9, 22 and 40, Tsujii discloses that the received first triggering signal is a deactivation signal, wherein the received second triggering signal is an imaging acquisition completed signal [col. 2, lines 12-26; col. 10, lines 13-37; col. 11, lines 3-15; Fig. 4 and 7; see table 1].

20. As per claims 10, 23 and 41, Tsujii discloses that the first power consumption state is an on state; wherein the second power consumption state is an off state [col. 2, lines 12-26; col. 10, lines 13-37; col. 11, lines 3-15; Fig. 4 and 7; see table 1].

21. As per claims 11, 24 and 42, Tsujii discloses that the received second trigger signal is absence of timeout, presence of a deactivation, and presence of a predictor signal [col. 2, lines 12-26; col. 10, lines 13-37; col. 11, lines 3-15; Fig. 4 and 7; see table 1].

22. As per claims 12, 25 and 43, Tsujii discloses that the first power consumption state is an on state; wherein the second power consumption state is an idle state [col. 2, lines 12-26; col. 10, lines 13-37; col. 11, lines 3-15; Fig. 4 and 7; see table 1].

23. As per claims 13, 26 and 44, Tsujii discloses that the received second triggering signal is a system timeout signal [col. 10, lines 13-37; state of phase 2 when a time-out of the integration control circuit occurs].

24. As per claim 28, Tsujii discloses that the received first triggering signal is one of activation signal, deactivation signal, or system timeout signal [col. 2, lines 12-26; col. 10, lines 13-37; col. 11, lines 3-15; Fig. 4 and 7; see table 1]; wherein the received second triggering signal is one of deactivation and predictor signal, system timeout signal, or image acquisition completed signal [col. 2, lines 12-26; col. 10, lines 13-37; col. 11, lines 3-15; Fig. 4 and 7; see table 1]; the first power consumption state is either an off state, an idle state, an on state; and the second power consumption state is either an off state, an idle state, an on state [col. 2, lines 12-26; col. 10, lines 13-37; col. 11, lines 3-15; Fig. 4 and 7; see table 1].

25. As per claim 32, Tsujii discloses that the activation switch further comprises one of an electrical switch, an optical switch, or a capacitive switch [col. 8, lines 58-66; at least two switches].

26. As per claim 33, Tsujii discloses that automatically changing of medical imaging detector to a first power consumption state occurs only if the first triggering signal exceeds an appreciable level [col. 2, lines 12-26; col. 10, lines 13-37; col. 11, lines 3-15; Fig. 4 and 7].

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Suresh K. Suryawanshi whose telephone number is 571-272-3668. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00am - 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas C. Lee can be reached on 571-272-3667. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Suresh K Suryawanshi